



Egg Markets Overview

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Wholesale prices for conventional shell eggs are mostly steady following last week's modest price increases but some weakness has begun to show as the trading week progresses. As replacement pullets come into production, supplies of smaller-size eggs have increased sharply, placing downward pressure on prices. Conversely, supplies of heavier-weight eggs have declined, placing upward pressure on their pricing. Prices for national trading of trucklot quantities of graded, loose, White Large shell eggs declined four percent (from \$2.66 to \$2.54 per dozen). The Midwest wholesale price for Large, white, shell eggs delivered to retailers increased four percent (from \$2.62 to \$2.72 per dozen) while the benchmark price for Large shell eggs in California is unchanged at \$3.61 per dozen. The wholesale price on the bellwether New York market for Large shell eggs delivered to retailers is unchanged at \$2.76 per dozen.

The latest shell egg inventory shows overall stocks up 6.6 percent with inventories of desirable Large size eggs up 7.7 percent overall and up 9.9 percent in the key Midwest production region. Breaking stock inventories increased by 6.5 percent.

Supermarket featuring of conventional Large, white shell eggs declines by nearly forty percent from the last weekly ad cycle. The average ad price to consumers increased eight percent (from \$2.26 to \$2.43 per dozen). Featuring of specialty shell eggs return to their dominate position in store circulars this week, comprising over eighty percent of promotional activity this ad cycle.

Wholesale prices for breaking stock, shell eggs for processing, declined six percent (from \$2.48 to \$2.32 per dozen). Offerings are increasing on light to moderate and sufficient floor stocks. Trading of egg products continues at a moderate to active pace. Wholesale prices for liquid whole eggs are untested this week (\$2.14 per pound last week). Wholesale prices for whole frozen eggs declined four percent (from \$2.55 to \$2.45 per pound) while frozen whites dropped three percent (from \$2.30 to \$2.22 per pound). Wholesale prices for whole dried egg are down three percent (from \$10.80 to \$10.50 per pound) while those for dried whites are down four percent (from \$19.00 to \$18.25 per pound). Prices for dried egg yolk increased five percent (from \$9.50 to \$10.00 per pound).

The volume of eggs processed last week was unchanged from the prior week and is down fourteen percent from the same week last year. Liquid whole egg production declined two percent while liquid white and yolk rose three and six percent, respectively. The monthly inventory of total dried egg products for July increased five percent from June but is 42 percent below July 2014. This indicates that egg products manufacturers are having some success in rebuilding inventories drawn down when production was lost to HPAI.

The U.S. imported 2,176,380 dozen shell eggs for breaking stock this past week, about 5.6 percent of the total volume of eggs processed in the U.S. during the same period. The total volume of imports of breaking stock since June 23 is 10,909,005 dozen.